

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 08896 181348Z

46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-06 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-04 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PRS-01 PA-02

USIA-15 AGR-10 SIL-01 LAB-03 TAR-01 VOE-00 INSE-00

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SUBJECT: SENATOR MANSFIELD'S PRESS COMMENTS ON MEXICAN OIL
AND OTHER BILATERAL ISSUES

1. EXCELSIOR GAVE PAGE ONE TREATMENT TO INTERVIEW OCTOBER 16
OF ITS JOURNALISTS WITH SENATOR MANSFIELD. SENATOR MANSFIELD
IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID: -- WITH ITS NEW OIL RICHES, MEXICO
HAS THE BEST OPPORTUNITY IN ITS HISTORY FOR A BIG LEAP FORWARD
IN THE TOTAL DEVELOPMENT OF ITS ECONOMY. FOR HIM, THIS
HAS BEEN VERY GOOD NEWS.

-- THAT HE HOPED MEXICO WILL DECIDE TO SELL ITS OIL TO
THE U.S. BUT WARNED THAT "IT IS IN THEIR HANDS TO OBTAIN
THE BEST CONDITIONS FOR THEIR TRADE BALANCE AND BALANCE OF
PAYMENTS." THE ECONOMIC FUTURE OF MEXICO WILL DEPEND, PERHAPS,
ON THE CAREFUL EXPLOITATION AND ECONSERVATION OF THIS NATURAL
RESOURCE.

-- THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO ARE EXCELLENT
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 08896 181348Z

BUT THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS SERIOUSLY

CLOUDS THE PICTURE. THE PROBLEM IS SHARPENED BY THE REPORTS OF CORRUPTION AMONG U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS STATIONED ON THE FRONTIER WITH MEXICO.

-- THAT THE FORD-ECHEVERRIA MEETING " WILL BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY IN ORDER TO TRY TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM WITH THE SAME GOOD FAITH AS THAT WHICH SOLVED THE QUESTION OF THE SALINITY OF THE COLORADO RIVER."

-- THAT HE RECOGNIZED THAT CONGRESS HAD PUT OFF THE STUDY OF THE NEW TRADE LAW WHICH GRANTS A SYSTEM OF TARIFF PREFERENCES ESPECIALLY DESIGNED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EXPORTS OF LDC'S. CONGRES HAD BEEN ABSORBED WITH MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST, OUR OWN U.S. PROBLEMS, INFLATIONARY PRICE INCREASES, AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE LAST MONTHS AND THAT THE TRADE LAW, AND OTHERS OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE, HAD REMAINED IN SECOND PLACE. WE KNOW THAT THIS AFFECTS MEXICO ESPECIALLY, AND I, PERSONALLY, AM HAPPY THAT WITH THE DISCOVERY OF NEW SOURCES OF OIL, MEXICO WILL BE IN A POSITION TO COUNTER UNBALANCED TRADE WITH ITS OWN RESOURCES."

-- THAT HE DEPLORED THE INTERVENTION OF THE CIA IN THE OPERATIONS DIRECTED AGAINST THE CHILEAN PRESIDENT, SALVADOR ALLENDE. "THE REVELATION OF THESE ACTIVITIES WAS NOT A SURPRISE FOR ME. FOR A LONG TIME I HAVE DENOUNCED THE INTERVENTION OF THE CIA IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT IN THIS CASE ITS ACTION WAS DEFINITELY HARMFUL. THE OVERTHROW OF PRESIDENT ALLENDE WAS NOT A GOOD THING FOR THE U.S. IT WAS A GOVERNMENT LEGALLY CONSTITUTED, ELECTED BY THE CHILEAN PEOPLE THROUGH ITS CONGRESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION OF THAT COUNTRY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE HAVE GAINED BY CONTRIBUTING TO ITS FALL."

-- THAT PERSONALLY HE DESIRED A PROMPT RAPPROCHEMENT WITH CUBA BUT INDICATED THAT THIS IS SEEN TO BE UNLIKELY IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. "EVERYTHING DEPENDS AT THE MOMENT ON WHAT THE OAS DECIDES CONCERNING THE SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA IN THE NEXT MONTH AT QUITO." THE VISIT OF TWO SENATORS TO THE ISLAND WEEK BEFORE LAST "WAS NOT A SIGNIFICANT FACT IN THIS CONTEXT SINCE THEIR TRIP WAS PERSONALLY MOTIVATED." AS THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS REITERATED, "THERE ARE INDICATIONS HERE AND IN CUBA OF A DESIRE FOR REPPROCHEMENT BUT ALL THAT DEPENDS ON THE OAS."

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 08896 181348Z

-- THAT WITH RESPECT TO THE RELATIONS BETWEEN MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES, "THEY ARE EXCELLENT, THANKS TO A NEW STAGE OF BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE SOLUTION TO THE SALINITY PROBLEM WAS A RESULT OF THIS UNDERSTANDING. "NEVERTHELESS, THE PROGRAM OF ILLEGAL WORKERS 'CLOUDS SERIOUSLY' THES RELATIONS BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTIES THAT WE HAVE IN RESOLVING IT." A NEW PROGRAM OF BRACEROS WOULD

BE A GOOD SOLUTION, "BUT WOULD AFFECT TOO MANY INTERESTS IN
ORDER TO BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE EASY TO CARRY OUT."

-- THAT "PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ARE TWO
GOOD LEADERS WHO WILL STRUGGLE FOR THE WELFARE OF THEIR PEOPLES
AND I BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL TRY TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE
PROBLEM WITH THE SAME GOOD FAITH THAT THEY SHOWED ON OTHER
OCCASIONS."

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